



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 003300-634

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:) **BOX: AF**
Timo LAAKSO *et al.*) Group Art Unit: 1616
Application No.: 09/529,442) Examiner: R. DeWitty
Filed: April 13, 2000) Confirmation No.: 7079
For: ENCAPSULATION METHOD)

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Amendment is filed in complete response to the *final* Official Action mailed on May 30, 2002 (Paper No. 6). This Amendment is timely filed by the August 30, 2002 due date.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1 and 24 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of encapsulating an active substance in a biodegradable polymer, which comprises:
 - a) dissolving said biodegradable polymer in an organic solvent therefor;
 - b) dispersing said active substance in the organic solution obtained in step a), to provide a dispersion with the active substance as the inner phase thereof; and